State Elementary Literacy Committee



Agenda

January 7, 2014 online http://connect.schools.utah.gov/slc

Information for 2013-2014 Meetings:

Tuesdays from 9:00-11:30

May 6

Meetings will be held at USOE Basement West or online at http://connect.schools.utah.gov/slc

This meeting was recorded and can be accessed at:

http://connect.schools.utah.gov/p8b689bia23/

- 1. Assessment update
 - a. SAGE Julie Benson Elementary ELA Specialist
 - SAGE ELA information available online for visitors and teachers at http://sageportal.org/
 - This year the essay assessments will be hand scored, so it may take a while to get data back. After essays are hand-scored, USOE will then hold sessions to determine the levels for 1, 2, 3, and 4. When that is concluded, students' scores will be reported.
 - For subsequent years, writing will be scored by machine. The engine is trained per prompt and there are many prompts for opinion and informational writing. The engine is trained for each prompt, so content will be a large factor for students.
 - Rubrics are available online; the blue print is also available online. There are minimums and maximums on the blueprint for the number of questions in each area because the number of questions asked in an areas will depend on how the students answer the adaptability of the test. It is adaptive as far as the number of questions goes, it will not be adaptive for difficulty until next year, because we have no data to go off of until next year. This first year will fill the blueprint for data and stats to go off of.
 - There are some annotated essays available that can be used to help teachers talk about what writing will look like when it is proficient. We are not developing anchor papers because we don't have cut points for the scores year. These samples will be posted

on the USOE Page Elementary ELA page under Resources http://www.schools.utah.gov/CURR/langartelem/Resources.aspx and State Literacy Meetings http://www.schools.utah.gov/CURR/langartelem/Actions-and-Programs/State-Literacy-Meetings.aspx.

- Annotation on reading passages. Students are able to highlight on the tests, they can also have a blank paper. However, they cannot write on the test. There is a highlighter is located by right clicking over the passages on each item; the cursor needs to be over the passage they are on. Julie will follow up with what features will be added.
- Additional writing items.
 - Paraphrasing is accepted.
 - The range is 4 and a 3 and 4 is proficient. It is a ten point rubric, but a 4 point scale proficiency. Everything after this spring will be computer scored.
 - The fall test is optional for LEAs. LEAs can give the test in one or more schools as determined to be appropriate.
 - When teachers have an interim test, it can provide more guidance to the teacher when the required tests take place.

b. DWA

- Julie reported we are moving toward SAGE writing taking over DWA next year.
- The testing window dates are posted online.
- It is scores using 6-Traits but is it also aligned to the UCS.

2. DIBELS and multiple assessment memo

Clarification 2012 Board rule: DIBELS is given three times a year. Another test can be given if there is good reason to believe that the test is not a good guide of where the student actually is (e.g. for students very close to benchmark when the teacher believes the student took the assessment that is not a good indicator for that student).

3. Science OER texts for grades 3-6 update

Annotated teachers guide to ensure students know how to read like a scientist. The literacy of science and social studies comes up in secondary, but support it

earlier. Even in Kindergarten kids can ask questions. Hopefully that will provide support to teachers in secondary schools.

4. Core Academy courses for elementary ELA update

- Very soon locations and content of courses will be out. Content areas will include K-12 language arts, K-12 Mathematics, and middle school science.
- This year registration will be different. First registration will be opened for districts; second level registration will be for teachers who responded to the statewide survey; and third level registration is open state-wide.
- In ELA, there will be two levels to differentiate for teachers. Level 1 will focus on close reading, text-dependent questioning, and writing to learn. Level 2 is for teachers that understand the Core and who are ready to move into learning to teach writing. The goal is to build from the level 1 course into the level 2. Everybody has been working very hard on designing the curriculum.
- This may be the last year of core academy they will go out with a great year. The Governor has worked very hard to secure. It does not meant that all assistance and sharing and support will go away; USOE is working toward new programs to help support Core implementation. It is critical with professional development that teachers keep learning and keep up to date.

5. Comments, questions, concerns

K-3 Reading Achievement: As we think about our K-3 funding, we need to remember that USOE's data created at a state level are very generalized. What is it in the grand picture that is not being communicated about how funds are used to support children?

Discussion about sharing different strategies for using K-3 funds most effectively; Tiffany will research a method sharing LEA plans for K-3.

Level 2 Reading Endorsement class available! It is the research course taught by Dr. Ray Reutzel at Summit Academy in Draper. You can take the course in Draper or remotely. Contact Lisa Cutler at lcutler@2summit.org. Tuition is approximately \$395.

ACTION ITEM: Susan Okroy, Early Childhood Specialist, has the kindergarten pamphlets for your LEA. They are printed in either English or Spanish and the numbers are based on your October 1 count from this year. Please email Susan Okroy at susan.okroy@schools.utah.gov if you have any concerns about your numbers.

Other reminders:

1. **UCA applications**: the deadline for approval is **January 14**. After this date, LEAs without approved applications for K-3 Reading or Early Intervention funds <u>will not</u> receive

- funding for 2013-2014. That deadline is for APPROVAL—not just submission! Please email me immediately if you have any questions!
- 2. The **Legislative Session** begins January 27 and continues through March 13. There are many education programs on the agenda this year.
- 3. If you are an **HB513 LEA** and using reading software, the list of your principals' and teachers' names and emails is needed NOW! Please email it to me. Thank you!
- 4. If your LEA's **Library Funds** haven't started to flow yet, I may not have received your report. Please email me your report ASAP. Thanks!